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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 10/031,560 | 10/25/2001 | Kazuhiko Yamashita | 19036/37898 | 8730 |

7590

09/09/2003

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EXAMINER

CROSLAND, DONNIE L

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2636

DATE MAILED: 09/09/2003

8

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/031,560

Applicant(s)

YAMASHITA ET AL.

Examiner

DONNIE L. CROSLAND

Art Unit

2636

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 25 October 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - 3) ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 5, 6. 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement dated 5-28-02 includes a copy of the International search Report as a prior art document. This is not a prior art document within the definition of prior art. Such will not be made of record.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to

consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Markl et al, cited by applicants in view of Bliss.

Markl shows the remotely accessible weighing apparatus including a weighing machine 2 I figure 1, a weighing machine control portion in the form of CPU 5 for setting an operating condition of the weighing machine through EEPROM 30, and a communicating device in the form of a modem for transmitting and receiving setting information via a communication medium, col. 6, lines 53 et seq., and col. 7, lines 15-24, and col. 8, and col. 9.

Markl fails to show log information.

Bliss shows the remotely accessible combination weighing apparatus and provides for log information, see figure 7B, and 8-10, and related disclosure, col. 2, lines 30 et seq.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to set or program log information in the weighing apparatus of Markl because the specific use of logging or programming information into a weighing machine is clearly taught by Bliss et al.

Patentable invention is not involved in logging data into a weighing machine.

With respect to claims 2 and 11, see communication mediums in cols. 2 and 3 that involves the LAN via Ethernet and Internet of Bliss.

With respect to claim 10, the server computer reads on service computer at the service department 28, figure 9 of Bliss and col. 18 line 58 of Markl.

With respect to claims 3 and 12, such reads on Internet communication as taught in the references.

With respect to claims 4, 5, 13, and 14, see col. 8, lines 29 et seq. and col. 9.

With respect to claims 7 and 16, note E-Mail 2 in figure 9 of Bliss.

With respect to claims 8, 9, and 17, see analyzing means 4, storage means 8, and computer means 6 in figure 1 of Bliss.

With respect to claim 18, see figures 7A and 7B of Bliss with respect to log analysis and log creation information.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Petite et al shows a remotely accessible combination device that includes transmitting and receiving information for setting or programming, cols. 2 and 3, figures 5 and 6. It is noted that Petite fails to show a weighing apparatus.

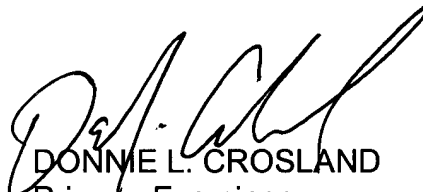
Luke shows the remotely accessible weighing apparatus through a network 22. It is noted that Luke fails to show setting or programming from a remote.

Tomlinson, Jr. et al show remotely accessible apparatus with setting and programming capabilities however, fails to show a weighing apparatus.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DONNIE L. CROSLAND whose telephone number is (703) 305-4388. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 9:30a-6:00p.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, JEFFERY HOFSSASS can be reached on (703) 305-4717. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-9051 for regular communications and (703) 308-9052 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.


DONNIE L. CROSLAND
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2636

Dlc
September 2, 2003